

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 OIC-04 ACDA-19 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 AF-10 ARA-16

EUR-25 NEA-10 DRC-01 /189 W
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R 210646Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2601

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, ICRC, CB

SUBJ: GENEVA CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR - KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE

REF: (A) STATE 034222; (B) CANBERRA 0894 (NOTAL)

1. EMBASSY REVIEWED BRIEFLY FEB 21 WITH LOOMES (FIRST ASST SECRETARY, CONSULAR AND LEGAL DIVISION) ISSUE OF KHMER REPRESENTATION AT GENEVA CONFERENCE ON LAW OF WAR (REF A). WHILE FORMAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION HAVE NOT YET BEEN FULLY APPROVED, LOOMES SAID THAT ISSUE OF KHMER REPRESENTATION HAD NOT BEEN RAISED AND THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN AUSTRALIAN POSITION AS REFLECTED IN UNGA VOTE LAST FALL.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF FEB 14 (REF B) LAURIE (ASST SECRETARY, MAINLAND SOUTHEAST ASIA BRANCH, DFA) INDICATED SOME RESTIVENESS OVER COURSE OF EVENTS IN CAMBODIA. HOWEVER, LAURIE SAID THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO CHANGE IN GOA POLICY ON CAMBODIAN REPRESENTATION GENERALLY, WHICH IS THAT AUSTRALIANS WILL CONTINUE TO RECOGNIZE LON NOL GOVERNMENT AND VOTE FOR ITS ACCREDITATION IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS PROVIDED 1) IT CONTINUES TO CONTROL PHNOM PENH; AND 2) IT CONTINUES TO HAVE MAJORITY SUPPORT IN UN.

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3. WE ARE UNABLE TO PARSE THIS POSITION ANY FURTHER, IN SENSE

WE ARE UNABLE TO PREDICT WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF, FOR EXAMPLE, A PORTION OF PHNOM PENH WERE TO COME UNDER KHMER ROUGE CONTROL OR FUNK/GRUNK WERE ADMITTED TO UNGA, REPLACING GKR. BELIEVE BEST WAY OF HEADING OFF CHANGE IN AUSTRALIAN POLICY WILL BE CONTINUED SUCCESS BY GKR IN MAINTAINING AT LEAST PRESENT LEVEL OF CONTROL OF COUNTRYSIDE.

4. EMBASSY DOES NOT BELIEVE IT IS IN OUR INTEREST TO PRESS MATTER ANY FURTHER WITH GOA OR SEEK ADDITIONAL ASSURANCES. SUCH EFFORT COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN SENSE IT MIGHT BE READ BY GOA AS SUGGESTING OUR ANTICIPATION THAT GKR IS ABOUT TO BE EXPELLED FROM PHNOM PENH OR FROM UNGA.

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Message Attributes

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